

### Abstract of the Disclosure

A host management apparatus (HMS) placed on a network to which the hosts of an electronic conference system are connected. The host information containing the IP address  
5 information on a site authenticated by a host authentication section for authenticating a selected host is acquired through a communication control section and is stored in a storage section by a host information management section, whereby the host information is  
10 registered in the host management apparatus. Therefore, problems of a complicated procedure, the incapability of flexibly increasing or decreasing the number of conference sites (hosts), apprehension that security cannot be ensured, etc., in an electronic conference system are  
15 solved.